

Appl. No. 10/019,548
Response dated July 8, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Apr. 8, 2004

REMARKS

The claims have been amended. No new matter has been added to the application.

Claim 45 was objected to. Claim 45 has been amended to overcome the objection.

Claims 24-26, 28-32, 40, 41, and 43-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 26 and 43-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. These claims have been amended to overcome these rejections.

Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 24, 25, 28-32 and 41 were indicated to be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The claims have been so rewritten and all claims are now believed to be allowable. Some limitations of claim 24 not believed to be necessary to make claim 24 patentable have been omitted from claim 24. Some of those limitations now appear in new dependent claims 51-54.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is hereby respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for any extension of time necessary to render this paper timely.

Please charge any additional fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0694.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 8 July, 2004.



SM Nehrbass

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